

From: [Onkar Bindra](#)
To: [Tom Adams](#)
Cc: [Kenneth McDonald](#); [Tom Torlakson](#)
Subject: Comments on 2014-15 Draft Curriculum Framework for H/SS
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 11:44:03 AM

Thomas Adams, Executive Director of IQC and Division Head of CFIR Division,

CDE, Sacramento.

Dear Dr. Thomas Adams,

This is in continuation of my earlier comments on the 2014-15 draft curriculum Framework, for favor of consideration by the IQC and the H/SS SMC.

1. Ref. Chapter 3, Grade-4, page 97, Line 1195: Dalip Singh Saund was born in a Sikh family of Amritsar District of Punjab (India) in 1899. My research has shown that he remained a Sikh throughout his life. Therefore, it is appropriate and desirable to change the wording "a Sikh immigrant" to "a Sikh immigrant from Punjab, India".

2. Reference Chapter 4, Grade-7: In my Dec. 4, 2014 submittal, I had stated, "It does not include Medieval India. Please include it." Now, I like to add the following comments.

Owing to subtropical climate, rich alluvial soil and irrigation resources, the Indian subcontinent has been a very productive and rich country. It used to be called Golden sparrow. No wonder, it was invaded for thousands of years by numerous invaders through the Khyber pass, until Hari Singh Nalwa, a famous commander of the Sikh kingdom put an end to these invasions. He has been the only one who defeated the Afghans in their own backyard.

Further, soon after the sea route was found, the richness of India and abundance of spices on the West coast of South India spurred the Portuguese, French, Dutch and the British to set up colonies in the Indian subcontinent. Furthermore, India gave refuge and shelter to the Zoroastrianism in the 8th century, and in recent years, to Tibetan refugees, and Christian refugees from Afghanistan and Burma.

Nalanda University and a few others flourished in the State of Bihar, India, until these were destroyed during Bakhtiar Khilji's invasion during 1193 C.E. The Moghul dynasty ruled over much of India for 331 years. For over 1000 year (711-1857 C.E.), most of the Muslim rulers of India levied a poll tax from non-Muslims and treated them as second class citizens.

The 5th Guru of the Sikhs was tortured to death on a hot plate at the orders of Mughal Emperor, Jehangir. Aurangzeb, another Mogul Emperor, had issued orders for forced mass conversion of Hindus to Islam. At the request of the Kashmiri Hindu Brahmins, the 9th Sikh Guru went to Delhi to plead to the Mogul Emperor for freedom of religion for the Hindus. Three disciples of the Sikh Guru were tortured to death and he himself was beheaded for refusal to convert to Islam. Two sons of the 10th Sikh Guru, 7 and 9 years old, were bricked alive in a wall when they refused to convert to Islam. The older two sons of the 10th Sikh Guru and his numerous disciples lost their lives in defensive battles.

The Indian subcontinent has had almost a quarter of the world's human population.. Exclusion of the medieval and early modern India (or Indian subcontinent) is not right. So please do include it. Thanks.

3. Reference grade-8, P.241, line 2376. It appears that the Gold Rush in California and agricultural labor in Hawaii did not spur Hindu and Sikh immigration to the United States. In fact, the first East Indian immigrants who came to California were the four Sikhs who landed at San Francisco around April 4, 1899. Please make the needed correction.

Sincerely,

Onkar S Bindra